

DIY Keepsake Fabric Postcards



My passion has always been making art with fabric. Fabric postcards are the perfect medium to create mini masterpieces to send to special friends! Meisha, who works at iii and accompanies us to many trade shows, came up with the idea and I just love the cards! They are so fun and easy to make...Imagine how thrilling it would be to receive a handmade art postcard?



Lovely printed butterfly fabric postcard



Hot air balloons using zig zag applique

Choosing and Treating Fabrics: Depending on the size of the card you are making, standard or large, make sure the novelty print is small enough to fit within the card size. For background fabric polka dots, small prints and solids work well. Treat all your fabrics with Terial Magic, dry to damp and press flat, then cut out the shapes.

Card backing: Use watercolor paper for back of card; cut to size of fabric postcard, 4" x 6" or 5" x 7".



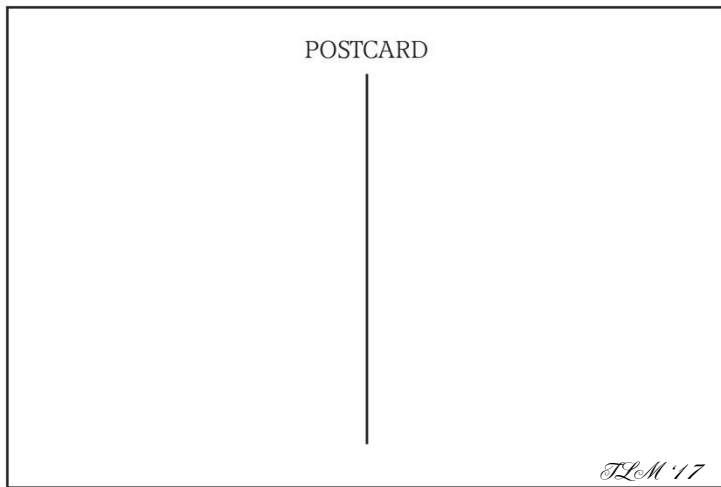
Card layout: Cut shapes and arrange on card; Piece background fabric using small zigzag stitches, or strait stitches near cut edge. Gluing cut shapes is another option for intricate shapes. (We used Clear Gel glue by X- Press It).



Tacking Design in place: Use double sided tape to tack shapes in place while stitching, be careful to keep tape placement away from stitching areas. (We use High Tack Double sided Tape by X-Press It.)



Zig zag applique cards: Here I used a fun alphabet fabric, “Watch Me ABC” by Alexander Henry. It is trimmed with 1/8” satin ribbon. Set machine stitch width to 1.5 and stitch length to 0.5 for outlining the letters. Then stitch the fabric to water-color paper using stitch width to 3.0 and stitch length to 0.5. Experiment with your stitches to find what works best for you.



Postcard backs:

Using a fine tip marker place a line along card center, 1/2" from top and bottom edge of card.
Hand print Postcard, Keepsake or whatever you want to say, just above the center line at top.
Optional: Sign and date in lower right corner.

(please shoot one close up shot of outline stitching)



Straight stitch or free motion applique: Use a short stitch along the drawn outline of the figures. For the sun, straight stitch close to edge, then stitch just outside the figure's edges. Stitch the fabric to the water-color paper back using straight stitch width 3.0 and stitch length to 0.5. Small imperfections in the stitching give the art a very home spun look which I LOVE!



Creating a gift set is fun to make and give as a treasured gift! Cut sun rounds from an ombre fabric were used to coordinate the cards with the same glowing sun as the backdrop. The deco women are “Glamour Girls” by Alexander Henry. For personalized keepsakes, find fabrics that depict your style and taste or those portraying who you are gifting!

Enjoy your craft!

